



Subject: Public Outreach Regarding the Evaluation of Alaska's Coal Regulatory Program

Each year the United States Department of the Interior, Office of Surface Mining (OSM) and the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Water, Land and Management (DMLW) jointly evaluate DMLW's administration of its program regulation coal mining in Alaska pursuant to the Alaska Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act at AS 27.21.

The annual evaluation assesses how effectively DMLW 1) prevents off site impacts from mining, 2) ensures timely and successful reclamation, and 3) provides meaningful customer service to the citizens of the coal region. The evaluation process also includes selection and review of specific topics of interest.

You are being provided the opportunity to submit comments, recommendations or suggestions prior to the development of the 2011 performance agreement/evaluation work plan. The current evaluation period runs from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011.

At the conclusion of each evaluation cycle, OSM prepares a report assessing DMLW effectiveness in implementing its coal regulatory program. Previous evaluation reports are available at OSM's internet website at <http://www.osmre.gov>.

Should you have questions, comments or suggestions regarding the OSM/DMLW annual evaluation process, contact Russ Kirkham, DMLW, by telephone at (907) 269-8650 or by e-mail at russell.kirkham@alaska.gov or Glenn Waugh, OSM, by telephone at (360) 753-9538 or by e-mail at gwaugh@osmre.gov or by mail at the addresses below.

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